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2005 ASSEMBLY BILL 1053

February 20, 2006 – Introduced by Representatives Huebsch, Montgomery, F. Lasee, Ziegelbauer, Bies, Owens, Lemahieu, Nischke, Jeskewitz, Suder, Jensen, Musser, Vos, Albers, Gottlieb, Honadel and Nerison, cosponsored by Senators Leibham, A. Lasee, Reynolds, Zien and Grothman. Referred to Committee on Energy and Utilities.

1 AN ACT to repeal 196.493; and to amend 196.491 (3) (d) (intro.) of the statutes;

relating to: requirements for approval of construction of nuclear power plants.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Public Service Commission (PSC) may not approve the construction of a nuclear power plant unless the PSC makes two findings. First, the PSC must find that a facility inside or outside the United States is available for adequate disposal of all high-level nuclear waste from all nuclear power plants operating in this state, including the proposed plant. Second, the PSC must find that the proposed plant, in comparison with feasible alternatives, is economically advantageous to ratepayers. The second finding must be based on the following factors: 1) the existence of a reliable and adequate nuclear fuel supply; 2) the costs for constructing, operating, and decommissioning nuclear power plants and for disposing of nuclear waste; and 3) any other factor having an impact on the economics of nuclear power plants, as determined by the PSC.

This bill eliminates the requirement for the PSC to make the two findings described above. Therefore, under the bill, a proposed nuclear power plant is subject to the same approval requirements applicable to the construction of other power plants.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

ASSEMBLY BILL 1053

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Section 1. 196.491 (3) (d) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:
196.491 (3) (d) (intro.) Except as provided under par. (e) and s. 196.493, the
commission shall approve an application filed under par. (a) 1. for a certificate of
public convenience and necessity only if the commission determines all of the
following:
SECTION 2. 196.493 of the statutes is repealed.
(END)